

## THE BROAD AX.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

Will promulgate and at all times uphold the principles of Democracy, but Farmers, Catholics, Protestants, Knights of Labor, Jews, Mormons, Republicans, Priests, or any one else can have their say, so long as their language is proper and responsible is fixed.

The Broad Ax is a newspaper whose platform is broad enough for all, ever claiming the editorial right to speak its own mind.

Local communication will have attention; write only on one side of the paper.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS (advance):

One Year.....\$2.00  
Six Months.....1.00

Advertising rates made known on application.

Address all communications to

THE BROAD AX,  
3609 ARNOLD AVENUE, CHICAGO.

JULIUS F. TAYLOR, Editor and Publisher.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK

### ENGLISH ARMY CORPS.

The unit of an English army corps is the infantry battalion, composed of eight companies of infantry. Four battalions, having two machine guns each, with a detachment of the army service corps, form an infantry brigade. Two infantry brigades, with a squadron of cavalry, three field batteries of artillery, one company of army service corps, one ammunition column and one engineer company, form an infantry division. Three infantry divisions, with the addition of a rifle battalion, having two machine guns, two field and three horse batteries of artillery, with five ammunition columns, two companies of army signalers, one engineering company, a bridging troop and half of a telegraph battalion, with a balloon section, form an army corps.

### GREAT ENGINEERING FEAT.

A remarkable engineering feat, with important consequences to agriculture, has been accomplished in Colorado. This is the diversion of some of the head waters of the Grand river from the western to the eastern side of the Rocky mountains. Water which would naturally flow into the gulf of California is diverted through a pass 10,000 feet high, and after being used for irrigation finds its way into the gulf of Mexico. The water thus diverted has a volume of about 400 cubic feet a second. The enterprise encourages a hope of its repetition on a larger scale, in which case a large area of land needing irrigation on the Atlantic slope of Colorado may be fertilized from the excess of water on the Pacific slope.

### REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The republican national committee has been called to meet on Dec. 15. The primary purpose of the meeting is to decide date and place for holding the next national convention. Chicago, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Kansas City, Detroit, Denver, San Francisco, Cincinnati, St. Paul, Louisville and Milwaukee are applicants. The convention will probably meet in June. The coming session will take up the matter of representation in the convention. It is proposed to grant representation according to vote polled in 1896. This would give the balance of power to the states east of the Ohio river. It is therefore not likely that the convention will accept the proposal.

### LONDON NEWSPAPERS.

As an instance of the enterprise of some of the London newspapers, and also as proof of the intense interest taken in the South African war, the "war bulletin" scheme recently put into operation by some English journals is interesting. These papers offer to send to subscribers who apply and prepay the telegraph tolls three special private telegrams each day, giving the latest news from the seat of war. The telegrams are sent out at noon and 5 and 7 o'clock each evening, unless news of extreme importance is received, when it is sent out without waiting for the regular time. The only expense attached to the service is the prepayment of the telegraph tolls.

### AS TO SAMOA.

The Samoan question is advanced toward a final settlement by an agreement between Germany and Great Britain. Tutuila, the smallest of the three chief Samoan islands, is to belong to the United States, to which it is important because it has the harbor of Pago-Pago. Germany acquires sole possession of the other two islands by ceding to Great Britain two of the Samoan islands, and relinquishing her interest in the Tonga group. The consent of the United States is necessary to this arrangement, but it is not probable that it will be withheld.

### MRS. GRIDLEY'S DISTRESS.

That is not a pleasant item of news that comes from Erie, Pa., recounting that Mrs. Harriet Gridley, widow of Capt. Charles V. Gridley of Dewey's flagship at Manila, is in distress from poverty. Since the death of her husband she has struggled hard to make a living for herself and children, aided by her eldest daughter, who is an underpaid kindergarten teacher. Though she herself has declined to make her troubles public, the fact has become known. Now that it is known, private generosity will undoubtedly hasten to her relief in some manner which will not embarrass her.

## NOTABLE SILVER ANNIVERSARY

With the close of the present year Mr. David C. Cook, of Chicago, will celebrate his first quarter-centennial as editor and publisher of Sunday-school literature. Starting twenty-five years ago, without reputation or assurance of support, he has become one of the most widely and favorably known publishers in this line. Beginning in 1875 with two small publications, his periodicals have grown in number and favor until there are few schools in this country that do not find it to their interest to use some of his pure and helpful publications, while many in distant lands pay tribute to their merits. The past quarter of a century has witnessed many changes among Sunday-school publishers, and much less time than this has sufficed for some to outlive their usefulness. On the contrary, Mr. Cook is preparing to celebrate the beginning of another quarter-century with additional improvements and new publications. Among these may be mentioned The New Century Sunday-School Teacher's Monthly, a large and thoroughly up-to-date magazine for superintendents and teachers, the first issue of which will appear in December. Among the most remarkable of his publications is the Young People's Weekly, which has attained a circulation of nearly a quarter of a million, being a successful attempt to furnish a high grade of religious story reading for boys and girls. To avoid the "goody-goody" story of the Sunday school, such as we remember in our childhood days, and furnish something natural, interesting and ennobling, has been its aim, and we are not at all surprised at its popularity.

The restraining influence of the Christian home and the Sunday school on our growing community of young people, some of us may not appreciate as we should—perhaps because these sometimes fail to restrain. This paper should be a most welcome accessory in this work, and one which all should appreciate. Boys and girls will read, and the story book and paper are their first choice. There seems a plentiful supply of religious papers for older people, but this is the first successful attempt to furnish a non-sectarian religious story paper for young people.

The paper is profusely illustrated, beautifully printed, and contains as much or more reading matter than the most expensive of secular young people's story papers. The price, 75 cents per year, should bring it within the reach of every home. Mr. Cook is now making a special effort to give the paper a wider circulation, and all who send 75 cents for a year's subscription before Jan. 1 will receive a beautiful premium picture entitled "The Soul's Awakening." It is exactly the same size (14x18 inches) and style as those on sale at art stores for \$1. Orders should be addressed to David C. Cook Publishing company, 36 Washington street, Chicago.

Probably no man living has done so much to improve and cheapen Sunday-school literature as has Mr. David C. Cook. Through his aid thousands of schools have been encouraged, improved and made self-sustaining. Mr. Cook is yet a comparatively young man, and it does not appear at all improbable that his field of usefulness may extend over yet another quarter-century.

To Los Angeles and Southern California Every Friday night, at 10:35 p. m., a through Tourist Car for Los Angeles and Southern California, leaves the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Union Passenger Station, Chicago, via Omaha, Colorado Springs and Salt Lake City, for all points in Colorado, Utah, Nevada and California.

In addition to the regular Pullman porter, each car is accompanied by an intelligent, competent and courteous "courier," who will attend to the wants of passengers en route. This is an entirely new feature of tourist car service, and will be appreciated by families or by ladies traveling alone. Particular attention is paid to the care of children, who usually get weary on a long journey.

These tourist cars are sleeping cars supplied with all the accessories necessary to make the journey comfortable and pleasant, and the berth rate (each berth will accommodate two persons) is only \$6.00 from Chicago to California. Ask the nearest ticket agent for a tourist car folder, or address Geo. H. Heafford, General Pass. and Ticket Agent, Chicago, Ill.

### Winter in the South.

The season approaches when one's thoughts turn toward a place where the inconveniences of a Northern winter may be escaped. No section of this country offers such ideal spots as the Gulf Coast on the line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad between Mobile and New Orleans. It possesses a mild climate, pure air, even temperature and facilities for hunting and fishing enjoyed by no other section. Accommodations for visitors are first-class, and can be secured at moderate prices. The L. & N. R. R. is the only line by which it can be reached in through cars from Northern cities. Through car schedules to all points in Florida by this line are also perfect. Write for folders, etc., to J. K. Ridgely, N. W. F. A., Chicago, Ill.

### Mexico.

On Tuesday, Jan. 23, a special vestibuled train of Pullman palace cars, compartment, drawing-room, library, observation and dining cars will start from Chicago, going to the City of Mexico and to other prominent cities of the republic and back to Chicago again, making the tour of all Mexico complete. The party will be strictly limited and absolutely first class. Tickets include all expenses everywhere. The tour is under the personal escort and direction of Mr. Rean Campbell, general manager of The American Tourist Association. For maps, books of the tour, tickets, etc., call on agents of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry.

## CHICAGO PLATFORM.

NEVER CAN BE SEPARATED FROM DEMOCRACY.

It Came from the People as a Protest Against Clevelandism, Carlisleism, Whitneyism and Wall Streetism—With It Reaffirmed the Party Will Win.

In 1896 a large number of people had become restless under, and dissatisfied with, the management of these commercial politicians who had controlled party organizations, and concluded to take matters into their own hands. The Chicago convention, representing a great party, took that party out of the gambling arena of the stock markets, and put it once more on the high plane of public welfare. With their eyes on the future, with the voices of their ancestors and the patriots of 76 in their ears, and with the weight of the heritage they should leave to their children resting on their hearts, they presented as issues fundamental truths. As champion they selected a statesman from the west, with clear brain and honest heart and devoted to the interests of the people. Since that time these professional issue makers have had a dull market for their productions. Lately they have been trying to persuade the allied forces of reform that a new set of principles is needed. We have re-examined the construction of the Chicago production and the material of which it is made. It does not show evidence of wear or indication of decay. It has in it life, power and purpose. Its champion has been tried and has been found to be true in purpose and intent. We are not much impressed by any reason advanced for laying aside the platform of the standard-bearer. These commercial agents have abandoned the idea of a new construction and set up a repair shop. They have been to see Mr. Bryan to persuade him to give his consent to their employment to make a few trifling changes. In their ignorance of the principles upon which the structure was built, in utter misconception of the character and ability of its architect, they advise the changes that would destroy the structure. It is time to remember that intellectual force, that motive, that moral responsibilities, are individual. There is no intellectual power in a corporation. The motives of every such organization are the motives of individuals. The moral responsibility must be paid upon the individuals. Make what legal restrictions and limitations you can, what good are the restrictions and limitations if the individuals that furnish the intellect and the motives are able to escape observation, retain what they extort from their victims by the aid of these monsters, and preserve their standing among their fellow-men?—A. J. Van Vorhis.

### NO DEAD ISSUES.

The American people have always been confronted with political issues of vital importance to a government based upon popular sovereignty. Since the beginning of the nation to the present day, not a single question concerning the people, or bearing upon their welfare and proper manner of government, may be said to have been abandoned or cast out into any fancied Gehenna of dead, extinct issues. An issue can only die, become extinct, when a radical change in our form of government makes it treason to broach it, or impossible to maintain it.

The principles of human freedom, equal rights and political liberty rest upon so slender a foothold, so delicately are they balanced in the scale of human ambition and greed, that it behooves a free people to beware of being caught napping when the bogie man of imperialism comes prowling about with the intent to subvert or undermine their liberties.

Because a certain issue is not constantly reiterated is not a reason why that issue has been abandoned, or even substituted by other issues. National autonomy, and the integrity of our national existence upon the lines established in the constitution, which was and is but the fulfillment of the principles given to the world in the declaration of independence, are issues not to be frowned down by clownish comicalities and covert sneers of derision. They are living issues and draw with them all other issues in any manner pertaining to them.

The people know where the Democratic party stands on the silver question; they know that the Chicago platform enunciated a financial doctrine incapable of being argued out of existence because of its vital importance to the welfare of the whole people, and the fact that it is not a dead issue is patent from the continued efforts of the Republican party to keep alive the issue of the gold standard, with its most radical and pernicious results. Having established that financial truism, it is assumed that the Democratic party should become blind to all other issues, and forsake those which are also of the greatest moment, and of the most vital importance, inasmuch as they are pressing upon the people with all the power of an administration which assumes upon itself all of the prerogatives of government, to the exclusion of its other co-ordinate branches.

Whatever issues are of material interest to the welfare of the people are within the province and policy of the party of Jefferson, of Washington and Lincoln, and it purposes to include those issues as living issues whether sounded through a trumpet or implied in its opposition to any and all measures foisted upon the people under the guise of loyalty to President McKin-

ley or the Empress of India. Let all men know and be advised, once for all, that the Democratic party does not intend to abandon any issue of importance to the national and individual welfare.

### SHOCKING THE GOLD STANDARD

Every adverse wind that blows upon the gold standard gives it a chill that endangers its vitality. To mention silver is to throw it into spasms calling for a rush of all sorts of physiologists, even jesters, to restore it to life and jubilation. Another blow is given it from an unexpected adversary who does not mention the bugbear of silver, but makes it feel the same cold chills.

Count von Posadowsky-Wehner, the German minister of the interior, became an open heretic in the presence of Andrew D. White, U. S. Ambassador at Berlin, and of other dignitaries of the German empire, all of whom agreed with him, at least, nobody disputed him.

"If this unbalanced (meaning 'balance of trade') against Germany continues, says he, 'We shall have to drop the gold standard.' Here is a nice admission. The gold standard then, is not the creator of a balance of trade in favor of the nation adopting it. It certainly is not, in fact it is and always has been the direct opposite. The fact that the balance of trade has been so enormously in favor of the United States during the past two years, is wholly due to our enormous productions and not to the gold standard. That it is not due to the gold standard is evident from the remarks of the German count whose grievance arises out of the fact that the gold standard gives a balance of trade against Germany, and if it keeps on he will drop it. The count's declaration was directed at the United States, and he desired some advantageous commercial treaty which would equalize this balance of trade, that is, give Germany an advantage by reducing the balance in our favor.

European financiers, as well as some of our own, regard the enormous sum of about six hundred millions of dollars, the annual balance of trade in our favor, a very good thing for the country, too much, in fact, for if it be continued several years longer, it will absorb all the money in the world. But when we investigate, it is discovered that our balance of trade is as fictitious as the quantity of our circulating medium. In 1898-9, the balance of trade in our favor was in excess of six hundred and sixteen millions of dollars in gold. As a matter of fact, deducting from the amount of gold actually received, the total amount of our exports, there was only about eighty millions balance, and that was not all coined as the mint reports show. It goes, some say, towards paying interest on our indebtedness abroad, expenses of Americans in Europe, steamship passages, etc., etc. It certainly never gets into circulation, for our money stock, instead of increasing, is being constantly contracted, and our debts are increasing faster than our output of gold and balance of trade combined. The imperial minister of the German interior is undoubtedly correct in his evident belief that the dropping of the gold standard would restore the balance of trade in favor of Germany, a result that would be experienced in every producing nation in the world.

### NATIONAL GRANGE AND THE TRUSTS.

Springfield, Ohio, Letter: The National Grange, which has been in session in this city during the past week, will adjourn sine die tomorrow afternoon. Important in today's proceedings were the reports of the committees on trusts and the merchant marine, both of which were adopted. The trust committee's report says:

"We are not opposed to associations of interests, which merely lessen the cost of production, but we are decidedly opposed to the misuse of the power which large combinations of capital give for the purpose of destroying competition, controlling production and arbitrarily dictating prices of commodities.

"We are opposed to all corporations or trusts which control the source of supply and, like the Standard Oil Company, reach out their arms and embrace all competition. Special favors are granted them by railroads, thus enabling them to undersell and force to the wall the smaller dealers, who might otherwise compete with them.

"The greed and selfishness which too often actuate men has become an element of danger and must be controlled. It must be made impossible for so-called trusts to accumulate millions by selling watered stock without adding to the wealth of the country."

### What the War Has Cost.

From the Boston Herald: It is interesting to know what the war operations of the United States are costing in their present stage. We find the most recent information on that point from the report of the treasury figures latest made. They show that for the past four months there has been paid out a total of \$183,851,152. Of this the war department's outlay was a little more than \$57,000,000 and that of the navy upward of \$19,000,000. If we add to this what was spent in pensions which former war created and in interest on the national debt due to the same cause we have \$66,000,000 more. Subtracting the aggregate of these expenditures from the total sum spent and there remains but about \$40,000,000 for the other expenditures of the government.

## PRESIDENTIAL ROYALTY.

From the Journal of Agriculture: A peculiar circumstance has occurred in connection with the investigation of the Standard Oil Company, by the industrial commission. The commission has refused to receive and record the testimony of Mr. George Rice of Marietta, Ohio, because some portions of it "reflect severely upon President McKinley, former Presidents Cleveland and Harrison, Attorney General Griggs and former Attorneys General Olney and Miller, and upon the interstate commerce commission." And so it seems that we are beginning to hedge our presidents around with that mysterious odor of royal sanctity that forbids the near approach of the vulgar masses. In our crude Democratic way of looking at things we had supposed that the people were the sovereigns, and the president their hired man, who might be called on to give an accounting whenever it suited their pleasure. It was Mr. Rice who instituted the suit against the Standard Oil Company which resulted in the retirement of that corporation from Ohio. He has been an independent oil producer and refiner, and through the extraordinary "business methods" employed by the oil octopus he has been forced out of business a number of times. He is thoroughly familiar with the peculiar methods of the Standard Oil Company and his testimony, it is said, contained statements which the commission did not care to have recorded in the published testimony.

We do not know whether Mr. Rice is a Democrat or a Republican, or whether, like Mark Hanna, he believes there are good trusts and bad trusts; but in any event he should be permitted to tell what he knows. It makes no difference what the commission thinks about it, they too, are servants of the people and they have no right to attempt to shield their fellow servants from adverse criticism. The people know that a great deal of very ugly business has been done by the Standard Oil Company. They know that a large part of its business consists in making desert wastes of competing firms, and then laying heavy burdens of tribute on the public; and they feel that they have a right to know how and why these things are done, regardless of what happens to the president and the ex-presidents. They are no better than other citizens, and if their corns are trod upon let them keep them on the safe side of public opinion. It is stated that Mr. Rice has printed his testimony in a pamphlet and had it copyrighted. If the commission persists in its refusal to admit his evidence, he should furnish copies of his pamphlet to the unmuzzled and uncensored press.

### AGUINALDO'S PROPOSITION.

New York, Nov. 23.—A letter to the World from its Hongkong correspondent, under date of Oct. 19, gives a remarkable interview with Aguinaldo. The interview, according to the correspondent, comes from an American who has lived for years in the Philippines and has known Aguinaldo for a long time. He has been through the lines and has been two weeks with the insurgent commander-in-chief.

This American is a business man with several correspondents on the New York Produce Exchange and agent of one of the firms running a line of steamers to Manila. For years he was a Philippine agent of Russell & Co., of Hongkong, San Francisco, New York and Boston.

According to the interview Aguinaldo wants peace, and to get it he is willing to repay the \$20,000,000 which the United States paid to Spain for the Philippines, and will consent to American soldiers remaining in Manila till the debt is canceled. He wants a republic to consist of a president, congress and judiciary, the president to be elected by the votes of the people, the congress to be chosen in the same manner from all the Philippine islands; a judiciary to be appointed by the president or by the senate; local governments in all districts and cities to be elected by the legal voters thereof; the American soldiery to be withdrawn (with some exceptions) from the country; to satisfy the American people a subsidy on the receipts from the customs and exports to pay the American government \$20,000,000, the amount paid Spain; also the taxes of real estate and personal estates to be dedicated to the same, and all to be repaid in five years; American soldiers (the number to be agreed upon) to remain at Manila until this debt is paid, then to be withdrawn from the island.

### Corporate Anarchism.

From the New York News: "We see today the amazing and revolting spectacle of industrial corporations defying law, violating order and practicing anarchy. In playing ducks and drake with law and order corporations are playing the game and into the hands of their worst enemy. When Chamber wrote, with mordant pen, of the men to whom every law is burdensome, every restraint insupportable and all government odious; men for whom honesty means the most trying of all yokes, he had in mind not so much the sansculotte mob of the slums as the 'men of light and learning,' such as Danton, Desmoulins and Robespierre, upon whom the just judgment of time has set the seal of expiation. In like manner the worst enemy of social order today is not the berry brawler, but the law-breaking or law-evading corporation, in its insolence of wealth and influence. Corporate anarchy—that is the enemy."

Cheerfulness was never yet produced by effort, which is in itself painful.

## FOR DREYFUS' SAKE.

KANSAS GIRL HONORED IN THE MARTYR'S NAME.

The Pretty Jewish Girl Who Was Recently Chosen Queen of the Wichita Carnival—Their Way of Showing Sympathy for the Jew.

As an expression of sympathy with Dreyfus, Wichita chose for queen of its October carnival a young Jewish girl, Miss Sadye Joseph. Immediately upon the announcement of the verdict a mass meeting of citizens was called and public expression was given to the indignation against the verdict of Rennes. The citizens of Wichita felt that their sympathy should take some tangible form, and as preparations for the fall carnival were then going on the idea occurred to some one to select a Jewess for the queen of the festivities as a rebuke to the bigoted Frenchmen who had hounded Dreyfus because of



MISS SADYE JOSEPH.

the accident of birth. The suggestion received the unanimous approval of Wichita, and Miss Joseph was chosen for the queen. The young lady is a stenographer in the employ of a well-known harvesting company, and is an extremely pretty girl. Her beauty is of a dreamy Oriental type; she has a creamy skin and dusky hair and eyes, as well as a good figure. Her selection as the queen of the October festival filled a two-fold purpose—it honored a charming and beautiful young woman and transformed the Dreyfus agitation into something practical, whereas in most places the indignation against the verdict came to nothing but fulminations, or, at the most, mass meetings—full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.

### IS CHARGED WITH TREASON.

Because he wrote the play, "More than Queen," which is now being produced in this country, M. Emile de Bergerat is now charged with complicity in the royalists' plots to overthrow the French republic. The play glorifies the career of the first Napoleon, dwelling chiefly on the heroic side of the character of the Empress Josephine. The charge against the dramatist is that by making prominent the splendor and magnificence of the Napoleonic era he hoped to make the French public dissatisfied with the comparative plainness and simplicity of their present government. He is said to have been inspired in this attempt by Prince Ronald Bonaparte, who is the richest representative of the family now alive. He owes his great wealth to the fact that he is a part owner of the great gambling tables at Monte Carlo, having married a daughter of old Blanc, founder of the gambling house. Prince Roland has not, however, been recognized by the



EMILE DE BERGERAT.

other members of the Bonaparte family, who look upon him as a spurious prince.

### Sea Gulls as Weather Forecasters.

Prince Krapotkin, in Nature, says that on Aug. 26 while off Broadstairs, he noticed several flocks of gulls flying along the coast toward Dover. The wind was then and had been throughout August from the northeast, but an old fisherman remarked that the gulls were moving to the south coast to meet a southwest wind, which was sure to come. The change then predicted then occurred the following day. Mr. Ingalls strengthens this forecast by a statement in his Weather Lore: "The arrival of sea gulls from the Solway Firth to Holywood, Dumfriesshire, is generally followed by a high wind and heavy wind from the southwest."

### Was Predicted? Astrologers.

It appears that the present war in the Transvaal was plainly predicted by English astrologers. In the number of Modern Astrology for January, 1899, this prediction is made: "We have no hesitation in now saying that the climax of 1899 will be a great war. Africa, as ruled by this sign (Mars) will be the cause of great bloodshed, and a great disturbance of the universal peace."